

CLAIMS

1. An image reading apparatus comprising:

a plurality of light-receiving elements that output

5 image signals corresponding to received light;

a plurality of lenses that focus light onto the
light-receiving elements; and

a light-shielding member

wherein all of the light-receiving elements are
10 arranged in a single line having an extremity, the light-
shielding member covering at least one light-receiving
element disposed at the extremity.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein remaining
15 light-receiving elements other than the covered light-
receiving element or elements are exposed.

3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the covered
light-receiving element is arranged to avoid direct facing
20 to an object to be read out.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the light-
shielding member comprises one of a metal layer and a nonmetal
layer.

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5. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the nonmetal layer is made of a paint material.

6. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the light-shielding member is black.

7. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a semiconductor chip in which the plurality of light-receiving elements are built in.

8. The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the light-shielding member covers a part of the semiconductor chip in addition to said one light-receiving element disposed at the extremity.

9. The apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising an additional semiconductor chip in which a plurality of identical light-receiving elements are built in, wherein all of the identical light-receiving elements are exposed.